

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The first National Congress, convened by the National Council of the National Front (NF), held a meeting in Berlin on 25 and 26 August 1950. At that meeting about 1,000 delegates from western Germany were given concrete directives for the preparation of propaganda activities along the lines of the old NF demands for the unity of Germany, the conclusion of a peace treaty, and the withdrawal of occupation troops. These activities were not initiated immediately after the first National Congress, because it was deemed advisable to postpone them until after the elections which were held in the Soviet Zone of Germany in October 1950.
2. The Prague Declaration of 21 October 1950, which summarized the NF demands initiated the NF action which emphasized Article 4 of that declaration. Article 4 calls for the establishment of an all-German constituent council. In a demonstration in Berlin on 24 October 1950, the National Council announced that appeals will be made to the people, if official quarters in western Germany refuse to establish an all-German constituent council. At the third session of the SED Central Committee on 26 and 27 October 1950, it was again emphasized that the people in eastern and western Germany would be called upon to decide the question of an all-German constituent council. At the same time, Walter Ulbricht decreed that a popular movement for the establishment of an all-German constituent council be initiated.
3. On 3 November 1950, the Soviet Government handed the ambassadors of the USA, Great Britain and France identical notes recommending a four-power conference on the problem of Germany. On 6 November 1950, Walter Ulbricht again emphasized that the campaign would be accelerated in event Bonn refused to cooperate. Article 4 of the Prague Declaration was again on the agenda at the 6th meeting of the National Council. At that meeting, numerous representatives from western Germany predicted that action would be taken if the Bonn Government refused to participate in the all-German constituent council. Of some significance is the fact that in western Germany, Heinrich Albertz (SPD), Minister for Refugee Affairs, Lower Saxony, as well as Kirchenvorstand (Church President), Mienocler, commented favorably on the demand for an all-German constituent council. At the same time, all parties and mass organizations in the Soviet Zone participated in the NF campaign with identical statements and acts.

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4. Otto Grotewohl's letter to Dr. Adenauer of 1 December 1950 was an additional step in the NF campaign. The letter suggested that the two parties name six representatives, each of which would work out an agreement on the establishment of an all-German constituent council. On 2 and 3 December 1950, a meeting of the SED Politburo was held in Berlin to discuss the development of the NF action. Directives issued to NF representatives in western Germany outlined the following plan of action.

- a. In the event of the acceptance of the Grotewohl proposal by Dr. Adenauer: Immediate adaptation of propaganda in western Germany to meet the requirements of such a development and pressure for lifting of certain restrictions upon interzonal traffic.
- b. In event of refusal: Considerable agitation in western Germany through strikes and similar activities. At the same time, the National Congress is to be convened and an all-German constituent council is to be established from members of the National Council and peace negotiations with the U.S.S.R. and the countries of the Eastern Bloc are to be initiated.

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